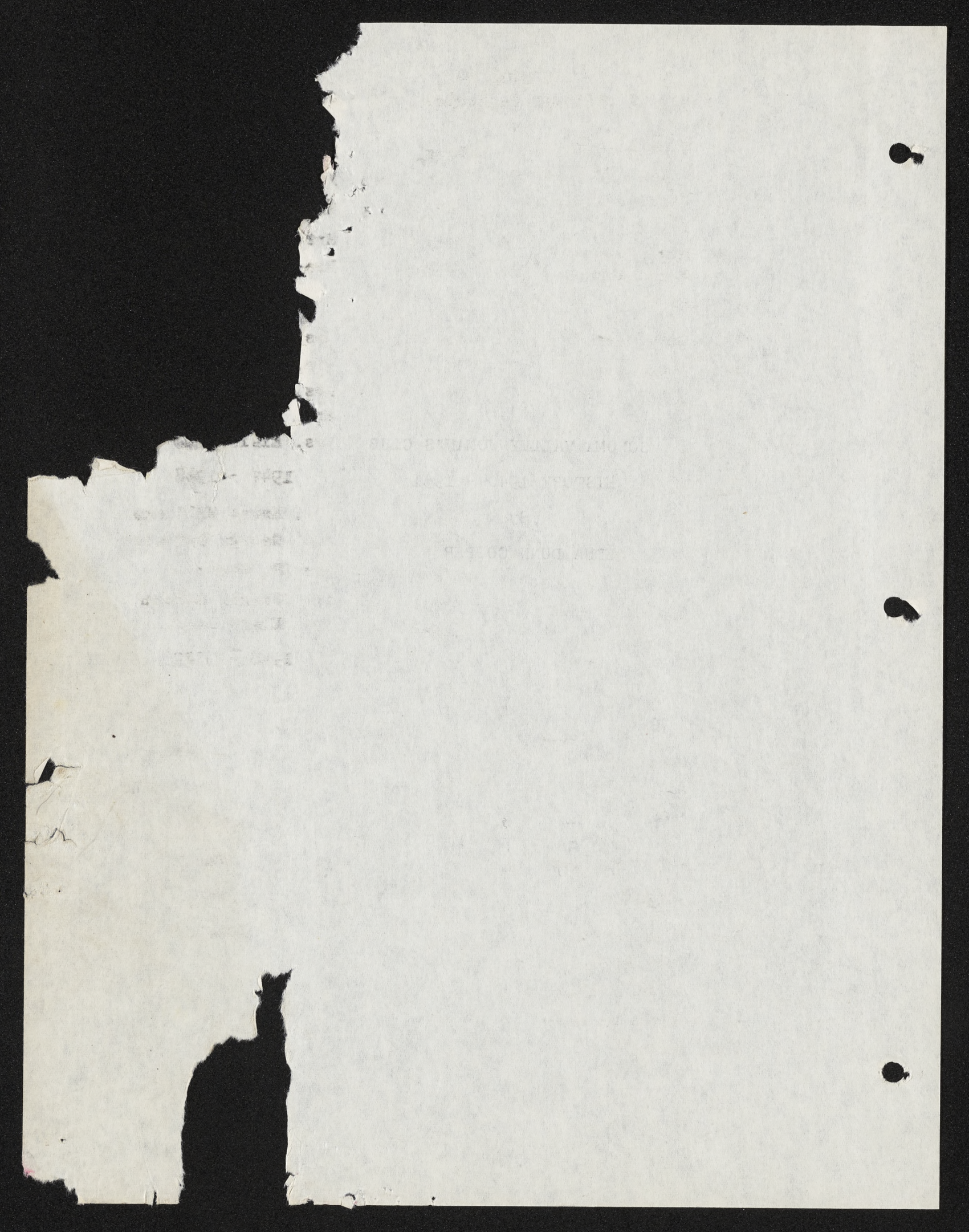
1940 - 1951

SONOMA VALLEY WOMAN'S CLUB

HISTORY 1940 - 1951

By

EDNA DUNN COOPER



CLUB HISTORY

ELECTIVE OFFICERS September 1940 -

1940-1941

Pres.	Mrs. Nina Eberhardt
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. Elizabeth Thomsen
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. Mildred Stone
Corr. "	Mrs. Ida Hotz
Treas.	Mrs. Migliavocci ½
	Mrs. Audry Hendry ½

1941-1942

Pres.	Mrs. Lois More
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. Joan McGrath
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. Gertrude Cassidy ½
	Mrs. Gladys Ostrum ½
Corr. "	Mrs. Bertil Friberg
Treas.	Mrs. Audry Hendry

1942 - 1943

Pres.	Mrs. Joan McGrath
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. Richard Little
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. May Hyatt
Corr. "	Mrs. B. Friberg
Treas.	Mrs. Audry Hendry

1943 - 1944

Pres.	Mrs. Dorothy Mitchell
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. Cora Maffei
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. May Hyatt ½
	Mrs. Blanche Mills ½
Corr. Sec'y	Mrs. B. Friberg
Treas.	Mrs. Floyd Edwards

1944 - 1945

Pres.	Mrs. Cora Maffei
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. Carrie Burlingame
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. Blanche Mills
Corr. "	Mrs. Floyd Edwards
Treas.	Mrs. Henry Carlson

Pres.	
Vice.-Pres.	
Rec. Sec'y	
Corr. "	
Treas.	

Pres.	
Vice-Pres.	
Rec. Sec'y	
Corr. "	
Treas.	

1947 - 1948

Pres.	Mrs. Emrys Williams
Vice-Pres.	Mrs. George Dufraine
Rec. Sec'y	Mrs. F. Honey
Corr. "	Mrs. Jeanne Osburn
Treas.	Mrs. Elsie Bean

1948 - 1949

CLUB HISTORY

September 1940 - June 1941

The September birthday lunch was held at the [illegible] Club, Mrs. Nina Eberhart presiding.

Three charter members were honored guests: Mrs. [illegible] Clara Johnson and Mrs. Kate Hill, who gave an interesti[illegible] Club. The guest speaker was Miss Stokel of Santa Rosa [illegible] Clinic" nurse. A clinic was to be started in Sonoma and [illegible] did talk the members voted to allow the free use of th[illegible] including fuel and light. Our members Mrs. Finnerty [illegible] both registered nurses, offered to help. This project went [illegible] through the years under the able leadership of Mrs. Sarah Fish and with the [illegible] of all members who had had nurse's training.

On September 25 the County Federation met in Sonoma.

Through the year $40.00 was realized from card parties, hal[illegible]

Attendance was very poor and at the December meeting when on[illegible] members were present, plans were discussed to encourage better attenda[illegible] It was decided to accept Mrs. Leiser's plan i.e. to divide the list of members under two captains - the side having the best attendance during the year to be given a party by the losers. This plan caused much fun and was very successful.

The cost of the upkeep of the grand piano brought the sugges[illegible] that it be locked and an extra charge be made for its use by rent[illegible]

The janitor's salary was raised 50 cts. extra for each time building was rented.

Benefits derived from our membership in the Federati[illegible] discussion. After weighing the cost of belonging (som[illegible] a year) it was voted to discontinue the membership.

talk by Mrs. Stacy Cox, County President, at the Ju
was voted to keep our membership.

The annual report at the end of the year showed a
on hand of $135.87 in the general fund and $11.55 in t
Section.

The Study Section and Garden Section had had int
programs each month and were well attended.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1941 - June 1942

Fifty members enjoyed the 40th birthday luncheon served at the Woman's Club House. As was the custom the Charter Members were honored. Only three were able to be present: Mrs. Emma Hotz, Mrs. Elsie Bean and Mrs. Kate Hill. They gave a most interesting program.

Mrs. Hill told of the early work of the Club, especially the Carnival of Nations that netted $1,200.00.(Detailed account in history for year 1910.) Mrs. Hotz told of the founding of the City Library and Mrs. Bean gave an amusing description of clothes worn in the past.

Members representing the Woman's Club, soliciting during the summer, turned in $89.25 collected in the annual Boy Scout drive.

The Lutheran Church of Petaluma asked to rent the Club House for services on Sunday afternoons. A charge of $7.50 was made.

It was voted to ask each member to earn $5.00 the project to be completed by February 1st, 1952.

Rejuvenation work was done on the kitchen and a base made so the flag could be displayed at the meetings.

Then came Dec. 7 and Pearl Harbor. After the declaration of war the Club women gave their all in relief work.

At the meeting of Dec. 21 it was unanimously voted to offer the Club House to the Red Cross as a center for all their activities during the war. Two Defense Bonds were bought and for the duration each year as many were bought as the Club felt they could afford. The Club House was also offered to and accepted by the American Women's Volunteer Service, for Air Raid Precaution Classes. The Red Cross began a Home Nursing Course on March 23rd.

By now all needs were being known to help the war effort and under the capable leadership of Mrs. Lois More a Salvage Committee was appointed.

Women were urged to save all waste paper, cartons, and cardboard. As the war progressed calls were made for nylon and silk stockings, kitchen grease, hunting knives 4" or longer, old bones for making much needed bone meal, peach pits, until as Mrs. More put it we were saving everything from fur coats to lives. Cans were placed in the hallway to receive the materials. Later when the fighting became more intense in the South Pacific, calls came for old costume jewelry to be used as barter by our soldiers with the natives.

The Club House was also being used by the Blood Bank.

A new project was started giving the use of the Club House and sponsored by the members for a graduation party each year for the Grammar School pupils.

The Club House being much in need of repairs a bid was received for $345.00 for all inside painting and outside reconditioning. Mrs. Burlingame loaned the money at 4½% interest. This same year the powder room was redecorated.

Mrs. Baccaglio spoke on the Navy Relief program and it was voted to have a Market Day in the Plaza June 20, sponsored by the Club. A quota of $500 was asked. $54.25 was realized from a cake sale at Eldridge toward this fund.

Owing to war conditions it was voted to hold business meetings during the vacation months of July and August.

This year the first scrapbook was presented to the Club by Mrs. Borie and she and Miss Meta Stofen worked faithfully to keep the club activities recorded from newspaper clippings.

At the year's end the treasurer's report showed a cash balance in the general fund $183.77, in the Garden Section treasury $27.05. A generous sum had been realized by the members gifts of $5 and it was very amusing to hear their reports of how it was earned.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1942 - June 1943

Forty members enjoyed the 41st birthday of the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club at a potluck luncheon served at the Club House. Under the leadership of Mrs. Oliver the Rainbow Girls served.

The meeting was opened by Mrs. Joan McGrath the new president with emphasis on the every day needs of keeping home life normal in these trying days of emergencies and facing the future with courage.

The Naval Radio Station at Skagg's Island had been opened for operation during the summer and an urgent need was felt for recreation rooms for the service men in this area. A United Service Organization (U.S.O.) meeting was called at the High School but it was stated by the officers that Sonoma being such a small community, no money could be received from the general U.S.O. Center, but one could be sponsored by local valley organizations. It was decided $1.50 a month from each organization would finance such a project. Our club gave to this financially and our women staffed it on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, collected reading matter and games and provided refreshments.

It was asked that all pennies be kept in circulation as none would be minted for the duration.

More calls came for salvage, buttons, any metal and again nylons, and canes for disabled veterans.

The Sonoma County T.B. Association asked for free use of the Club House one day a month for florescoping the public. This was granted.

The tower of the Sebastiani Apartment House had been taken for use by the Aircraft Warning Service and volunteers were asked from the Club. This was a 24 hr. project and our women worked willingly, two hour shifts by day, 4 hours by night. The Santa Rosa Red Cross asked that the Club sponsor and form a group to make surgical dressings for the service. This was done and many volunteered.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1942 - June 1943

It was voted to offer a deserving pupil of the High School a $50.00 scholarship. Said pupil to be selected by a committee composed of the principal of the High School, the president of the board of trustees and the president of the Woman's Club.

The Red Cross announced a drive for funds beginning in March, Sonoma Valley's quota $5,000.00.

In June it was announced 200 service men had enjoyed the hospitality of the U.S.O. and our club had provided 19 hostesses.

Community plans were being formulated for a new valley hospital and Mrs. McGrath was asked to serve representing the Woman's Club.

At the last meeting of the club year a report was read and accepted revising the by-laws. Substance of the report as follows:

Whereas in these troubled times, many are the demands being made upon our time and effort for war service and

Whereas as a measure of conservation we are expected to curtail Club activities to a minimum,

Therefore be it resolved that for the duration of the war we dispense with one regular meeting each month.

Anita Leiser - Chairman
Ida Hotz
Erma Finnerty

(At that time the Club held a business meeting the first part of the month and a social meeting the last of the month. This resolution dispensed with the business meeting for the time being.)

CLUB HISTORY

September 1943 - June 1944

A buffet, pot luck luncheon at the Club House was served to start the new year. President Dorothy Mitchell outlined her plans and goals of the club for the new year, the central theme being rehabilitation for the returning soldiers. Forty-eight members were present.

A note of sadness was felt by all as a few moments of silent prayer was asked by the president in memory of the late Louisa Emparan, our beloved charter member and daughter of General Vallejo.

The Mission Inn had been taken over by the U. S. Navy as a rehabilitation center for the nerve shattered service men returning from the South Pacific. Mrs. Robert Hill, one of our charter members, and a most gracious woman, was asked to be general chairman to supply hostesses and supervise recreation activities.

Thanksgiving Eve a dance was given in the Club House for service men sponsored by the A. W. V. S. and another on New Year's Eve. It was voted that the $6.00 rent each time be invested in cigarettes and offered at the dance compliments of the Woman's Club.

It was voted that a standing invitation to attend the Club meetings be given the ladies at Skaggs Island and a letter was sent to the commanding officer in charge and posted publicly there.

Another $100 bond was bought for $74.00 maturing in 12 years.

Mrs. Butler made a motion, passed unanimously, that the Club purchase a Seeing Eye Dog for some blinded service man.

The speaker at this meeting (June 21st) was Dr. Van Arsdale, Superintendent of the newly established home for delinquent juvenile girls at Kenwood to be known as the Los Guilucos School For Girls, who gave a most interesting talk on the workings of the institution.

A rummage sale managed by the Ways & Means Committee which began Jan. 29 and ended Feb. 7, was a great success. It netted $660.71 -

$572.76 from sale of goods - cash donations $66 and raffling articles $21.95. This money was given to the Red Cross.

The treasurer's report of the Club for March showed a balance of $947.59.

A suggestion was made that a building fund be started and the tea tax added to it each month. Motion carried that $50.00 be taken from the regular fund, as a beginning. This fund to be used for no purpose but to renovate and care for the Club House.

At the meeting of March 7 a talk was given by the District General Chairman of the Red Cross, Roy Bill of Santa Rosa (a former Sonoma boy) who gave an outline of the work done, and urged all to give as liberally as possible as the quota for the Santa Rosa District of which we were a part, had been raised from $35,000 to $55,000. Voted to give $50.00.
A janitor was found who would care for the building for $12.00 a month.

Well Baby Clinic reported 137 babies had been cared for in 1943.

The Sonoma County Federation met in Sonoma on May 24.

It was suggested by Mrs. Woodworth that the Club sponsor the two Camp Fire groups in Sonoma. It was voted to do so with the understanding that the Club House would be available for Council meetings and that the Club pay $4.00 to each group organized -$1.00 for the charter and $3.00 for necessary dues.

It was ahnounced by Mr, Courtney, High School Agriculture teacher that available facilities for community canning had been set up at the High School.

Financially at the end of the club year the club was in excellent condition. The treasurer's report showed: General fund $820.42, Garden Section $38.58, building fund $57.80 and a rehabilitation fund that had long been established $673.01.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1943 - June 1944

Early in the year it had been unanimously voted to give the fund to the government to buy a guide dog for a blind veteran, but report from the government was such money could not be accepted and they recommended the money be given to a volunteer fund at Mare Island hospital for artificial limbs for wounded Navy men. This matter laid on the table.

At the last meeting, the annual spring luncheon, the outgoing president urged all members to use sympathetic understanding and guidance of youth in the post war era.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1944 - June 1945

The 46th birthday of the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club was celebrated at the Club House with a 1 p.m. buffet lunch. Mrs. A. Maffei President presided.

Mrs. Burlingame, chairman of the day, gave a short history of the Club - called the roll of charter members to receive beautiful tuberous begonia corsages. Mrs. R. P. Hill, Mrs. G. H. Hotz, Mrs. C. C. Bean, Mrs. W. L. Murphy were present.

The treasurer's report for October showed: General fund $201.79, Garden Section $39.53, Building Fund $71.31, Rehabilitation $673.01.

A fall tea was given to welcome guests and we hoped prospective members.

The subject of Guide Dogs for the Blind was again discussed. It was unanimously voted to send the Rehabilitation fund of $673.01 to the Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc. in San Rafael. In a letter of thanks from them it was stated that the name of our Club will be enrolled in the group of Life Members($500.00) and the remaining fund $173.01 be used to further the work at Los Gatos.

Mrs. Leiser presented a very pretty bridge lamp to the Club.

On March 16, 1945 at the County Federation meeting held in Santa Rosa, Mrs. Carson Mitchell our beloved past president, was elected president of the County Federation and was installed May 23rd. She chose as Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Cora Maffei and as Parliamentarian Mrs. Lois More, both from her home Club.

Mrs. Ralph Hotz member of a committee to work for a County Library, reported progress and suggested a resolution to read:

Resolved the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club of 123 members wish to go on record in favor of immediate establishment of a County Library in Sonoma County. Motion carried.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1944 - June 1945

Chairman of Valley Home Food Production and Conservation Committee, Dave Pfeiffer, urged the enlistment of all members in a campaign for greater food supply very urgent at this time owing to overseas shortages.

Report was read of Hamilton Field Air Evacuee Patient Welfare Fund established to make possible free telephone calls by returning wounded service men. We donated $10.00.

At the beginning of the year there was much discussion of the proposed gift by our Club to the now completed Sonoma Valley Community Hospital. The community goal for financing the hospital had been met, and it was unanimously voted that we furnish the maternity ward. A large benefit was given which netted $800.00, the total cost. Later a plaque would be installed commemorating the gift.

The hospital held open house April 29, and the Maternity ward was beautifully decorated by the Garden Section and on April 30 the first baby was born there Lonnie Lee Wright.

At the April club meeting the Camp Fire girls and their mothers were guests and the tea tax was given to their memorial fund.

Col. Nelson Holderman manager of the Veterans' Hospital at Yountville, the guest speaker at the October meeting, outlined the necessity for the care and welfare of disabled veterans and urged all present to help in this vital part of our post war planning.

Interest shown in the fall series of card parties netted a [illegible]unt and the fall festival sale held Dec. 9, netted $800.00.

Mrs. Cook suggested to the Club that we make a concerted effort to stamp out nudism which had brought much unfavorable publicity to our valley by the establishment of a nudist colony in the Buena Vista Hills.

CLUB HISTORY
September 1944 - June 1945

A resolution she composed was sent to the Supervisors and at a later meeting she announced a bill was pending in the State Legislature to outlaw nudism throughout the state. Motion was made and carried that we send a resolution to the state favoring passage of such legislation.

Fifty dollars was given to the Red Cross.

Plans were being made by the city to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Bear Flag raising in June and the Club was asked to support a movement to have a commemorative stamp issued.

Grateful that the war was over, plans were made to remove articles belonging to the Civilian Defense and Home Service Department from the Club House.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1945 - October 1946

The 44th annual birthday luncheon was held at the Agua Caliente Hotel. The new president Mrs. Carrie Burlingame presided and outlined her plans for the coming year.

Mrs. Carson Mitchell introduced the speaker Mrs. Martha Newell, president of the San Francisco District who gave some interesting highlights on work being done in our district and complimented us highly on our civic activities.

A card party and supper given on Nov. 1st and a bazaar on Dec. 1st netted the club $602.87.

A call was issued for more hostesses at the U. S. O.

The fall guest day and tea was a lovely affair.

The Camp Fire Girls were allowed to use the Club House for a Christmas party and the Club sent two decorated trees to the maternity ward at the Community Hospital.

The January treasurer's report showed a total balance in the treasury of $1017.99.

The Ways and Means committee on Mar. 22nd sponsored a Breakfast Broadcast at Mission Inn featuring Jane Lee radio commentator who interviewed the officers. Tickets were $1.35 and the club realized $43.40.

The Club voted to participate in the three day Centennial Celebration in June and the Historical Society asked to join us in "open house". Accepted. Realized from sale of cake and coffee $35.19.

A letter was received from the treasurer of the San Francisco District asking us to subscribe to the Penny Art Fund - a penny from each member. Voted to send $1.40.

$25.00 was donated to the 1946 Red Cross Drive.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1945 - October 1946

New copies of the Club by-laws were printed with two changes: That the Club dues be raised to $5.00 and the Study and Garden Sections be allowed to choose their own chairmen.

A letter of thanks and a beautiful picture to be hung in the Club parlor was received from the A.W.V.S. in appreciation for the use of the Club House during the war years.

Rent was raised for use of the Club House to $10.00 with an additional fee of $5.00 if the building is not left in perfect condition.

The major project of the year was complete redecoration and refurnishing the Club parlor, adding new carpet and replacing the water heater in the kitchen.

Cost:	Water heater	$100.00
	Furniture	278.75
	Rug	152.67
	Total	$531.42

CLUB HISTORY
September 1946 - June 1947

With 65 members present the Woman's Club celebrated its 45th birthday with a luncheon at the Agua Caliente Hotel. Mrs. Blanche Mills the new president presided. She introduced three charter members, Mrs. Kate Hill, Mrs. C. C. Bean and Mrs. Clara Johnson. Also introduced Mrs. Carrie Burlingame who had been a very active member since joining the club six months after its organization. She is a daughter of our charter member Mrs. Appleton and a sister of Mrs. C. C. Bean.

Mrs. Emrys Williams, Chairman of the day, introduced the speaker Dr. Edith Young who gave a most interesting talk on the activities of the Sonoma County Health Department, urging all to take advantage of the X-ray mobile unit donated to the Sonoma County by the Elks Clubs of Petaluma and Santa Rosa at a cost of $12,000. Other important projects are the clinic for crippled children and the school for spastic children.

At the conclusion of the meeting all were asked to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of our charter member Pauline Hays who had passed away.

In October the Sonoma Club was hostess to the County Federation. The guest speaker Mrs. Fields explained the benefits derived from the Penny Art Club and at our next regular meeting it was voted to continue it.

It was voted to no longer rent the Club House regularly and the Lutheran Church was asked to find other quarters.

New house rules were made:

Rental with kitchen $10.00 afternoon $15.00 for evening.

Hall evening without kitchen $10.00

Front half (parlor) afternoon $6.00

Members allowed 25% discount in rates.

CLUB HISTORY
September 1946 - June 1947

However at the January 1947 meeting it was voted unanimously not to rent the Club House for any purpose.

The project for the year was the renovating of the Club House auditorium and acquiring an adequate heating system. Mrs. McTaggert was made chairman of this committee.

A bid of $578 by Banning Bros. was accepted for a complete paint job, floor sanding, etc. But Mrs. McTaggert was sorry to announce that because of post war shortages it was not possible to get heating equipment. The money was borrowed from American Trust Bank.

It was voted to have a house mother with remuneration. Mrs. Sarah Fish was appointed.

A shower was given ourselves at the December meeting, of tea towels, bridge cloths, etc. Very successful.

The Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce held a round table lunch each month in the interest of community unity. The president was chosen to represent our Club.

A smorgesboard given in April netted $320.05.

May 1947 the loan from the American Trust with interest was paid in full in less than 3 months and the cancelled note was destroyed at the meeting with much rejoicing and the year ended with a balance in the bank of $559.77.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1947 - June 1948

Members of the Sonoma Valley Woman's Club met at the Sonoma Grove Resort when the 46th Club birthday was observed with a delightful luncheon. Our new president Mrs. Emrys Williams presided and 90 members were present.

Two charter members were present Mrs. Clara Johnson and Mrs. Walter Murphy. Other honored guests were State Federation president Mrs. J. C. Bradbury and District Federation president Mrs. Paul Alexander.

Mrs. Alexander, president of the San Francisco District spoke of the 10,150 members of this district who were sponsoring movements to preserve the beaches throughout the state for recreation areas, the old age pension plan making the age requirement 65 years and the residence requirement in our state 10 years. She asked all clubs to do an outstanding piece of civic work this year in the proposed Memorial Hostess House at Yountville - cost $60,000 and which is to be financed by contributions from the clubs or $1.00 per capita.

At the October meeting the delayed purchase of a new heating and cooling system was completed at a cost of $350.00. A loan was taken out to pay for same.

It was voted to contribute $50.00 to the Boy Scout Drive instead of the usual $25.00 as the scholarship fund was not needed this year as the girl student in line for it had been accepted at Permanente Hospital and no funds were required by her.

The Club was asked to assist in the Vintage Festival and agreed to care for sale of dance tickets.

We continued to contribute to Penny Art Fund.

The need in Europe was so evident the organization CARE was contacted as to the best way our Club could help in this need.

CLUB HISTORY

September 1947 - June 1948

It was decided to adopt an orphanage or school and send food and clothing. Mrs. McAleese was appointed chairman of this project.

A complete set of new dishes was bought at a very nominal price through the efforts of Mrs. Weiss.

On December 19 a lovely Christmas children's party was given for the children of the clubwomen. Each participant was asked to bring a clean garment and 10 cts. for the new Club project. A doll's crib set was raffled, $52.25 realized and given to this CARE fund.

At the January 15 meeting Mrs. McAleese reported on our European Child Welfare Project, stating that $123.00 was in the bank, two packages had been sent to Europe and receipts had been received from them. To raise more funds a supper and dance were given at Little Switzerland and $74.50 was added to the fund.

A smorgasbord supper was given in February at which $214.62 was realized and by March 16, 1948 the new furnace was completely paid for.

A 3% increase in insurance rates became effective Jan. 1948 due to a change in the insurance law passed by the 1947 Legislature.

The Club wrote a letter to the Chamber of Commerce endorsing a shallow draft harbor and aquatic park and recreation center on Sonoma Creek.

Amendment to the by-laws was passed: i.e. As membership had grown a great deal 20 members constitute a quorum instead of the present 10, and the Club have 35 members instead of the present 25 present if an amount of more than $25.00 was to be spent.

In a history as brief as this it is hard to give sufficient coverage to the projects carried on by the Club beside the business carried on at the regular club meetings.

In this ten year span both the Garden Section of the Club and the Study Section carried on well, having interesting, well attended meetings. The latter met in the evening and was officered and attended mostly by the business and professional members.

The projects sponsored by the Woman's Club during this 1940-1950 period were:

The Junior Assemblies and the High School New Year Parties managed by the young married club members.

The Grammar School Graduation Parties, and the Library Fund for Children's Books by the young mothers, also Camp Fire Girls and Boy Scouts.

The Well Baby Clinic managed so well for many years by Mrs. Sarah Fish.

Scholarship Fund.

And for the war effort:

Waste Conservation, U. S. O. Hospitality House,

A. W. V. S. Red Cross, Salvation Army, Care.

Much credit for the success of the latter must be given the public school teachers who gave all possible time and effort to these war projects. All Club members (18) they found time to do much extra curricular work and all are worthy of remembrance.

From the High School:

Bertha Warthorst
Edith Gottenberg
Emilie Grinstead
Agnes Arnot
Anna Burt
Edna Jensen
Florence Rolfe
Shirley Ward

and from the Grammar School:

Ida Hotz	Zolita Clerici
Alice Young	Nettie McConochie
Mildred Burchard	Florence Murphy
Marian Chester	Edna Cooper
Katherine Henley	Audry Hendry

Though she preceded this group by many years, Miss Minnie Cook is especially worthy of mention and praise.

A Charter member of the club, gifted dramatically, an ardent advocate of a beautiful city, she taught the first grade in the Sonoma Grammar School for fifty years, sparked the drive to have trees planted along our streets, took one of the leading parts in the pageant celebrating our 100th birthday in 1923, and until her death in the early 1930's gave all her energy and love to her school pupils and her city.

SONOMA VALLEY WOMAN'S CLUB

OFFICERS - I948- I949

President - Mrs. Oliver J. Maffei.
Vice-President - Mrs. Warren R. Dutton
Recording Secretary - Mrs. J. Lowell Oliver
Corresponding Secretary - Mrs. Maxwell Johnson
Treasurer - Mrs. C. C. Bean
Trustees - Mrs. Carrie A. Burlingame, Mrs. James Gottenberg, Mrs. W. D. More, Mrs. George DeMartini, Mrs. James McTaggart.
Study Section Chairman - Mrs. C. B. Mills.
Garden Section Chairman - Mrs. J. E. Looney.

I949 - I950

President - Mrs. Warren Dutton
Vice-President - Mrs. E. W. Scott. later - Mrs. James Gottemberg.
Recording Secretary - Mrs. Almer Newhall, Jr.
Corresponding Secretary - Mrs. Howard Hansen
Treasurer - Mrs. C.C. Bean
Directors - Mrs. W.D. More, Mrs, Carrie Burlingame, Mrs. James Gottenberg, Mrs. George DeMartini, Mrs. James McTaggart.
Study Section Chairman - Mrs. Thomas Vella,
Garden Section Chairman - Mrs. J. B. Severance.

I950 - I95I

President - Mrs. J. Lowell Oliver
Vice-Presidemt - none - later Mrs. John Weiss.
Recording Secretary - Mrs. Almer Newhall, Jr.
Corresponding Secretary - Mrs. Howard Hansen
Treasurer - Mrs. C. C. Bean
Directors - Mrs. James Mc Taggart, Mrs. George DeMartini, Mrs. H. H. Arnold, Mrs. W. G. Martin, Mrs. W. R. Dutton.
Study Section Chairman - Mrs. Ralph Hotz
Garden Section Chairman - Mrs. J. B. Severance.

SONOMA VALLEY WOMAN'S CLUB

I948-I949 Mrs. Oliver J. Maffei, - President

The 47th anniversary of the founding of the club was celebrated with a luncheon, held at Fireside Lodge, with 66 members and guests present. Mrs. Oliver J. Maffei, as president, presided, and speaker of the day was Mrs. John E. Nelson, President of the San Francisco District, C.F.W.C.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Maffei, the I948-I949 club year activities included fund raising, which netted the treasury a total of $897.00, from a chrysanthemum tea - $I36.00, a concert - $II8.36, a bazaar - $484.70, and a smorgasbord dinner - $I57.7I.

Our contributions to the CARE program consisted of 3 packages per month, being sent to a school for boys in France, Mrs. R. H. McAleese, Chairman. Contributions to the book shelf in our public library were made, and sponsorship of a graduation party for the graduates of our local grammar school.

Also, we gave the use of our club house, by agreeing to rent the building to the local school board for use as class rooms during the construction period of a new grammar school building. Our meetings were then held in the Methodist Church.

The club voted to change its form of organization from an informal body to that of an non-profit corporation, as a protection for its members against any future law suits.

Plaza Vintage Festival booth netted $65.00 for the Garden Section.

Active membership - I77.

- -

I949-I950 Mrs. Warren R. Dutton, - President

The 48th anniversary of the founding of the club was celebrated with a luncheon, held at Fireside Lodge. with I00 members and guests present. The President, Mrs. Warren Dutton, presided, and speaker of the day was Mrs. Lillian M. Huebner, State Chairman of Art, C.F.W.C., who spoke on American Art and the Penny Art Fund.

Meetings were now held in the Congregational Church.

Fund raising activities for the year, included the sale of plants at the Vintage Festival - $55.00, a smorgasbord dinner -$I90.36.

Mrs. E. W. Scott resigned as Vice-President, and Mrs. James Gottenberg was named to succeed her.

Mrs. R. H. McAleese reported a total of $625.00 had been provided for a school for boys in France, and it was decided that when the present funds for this purpose were used up, that the program be discontinued.

Our building was still being used for class rooms by the local school district, with the club receiving a rental of $I00.00 per month. This money to be placed in a building fund, and to be used for reconditioning the building later. The Board of Directors and the Building Committee made the recommendation that we add a dining room at the rear of the building, and relocate the kitchen, that the outside of the building be stuccoed, and have an inspection of the foundation. Decided to consult a contractor as to costs, before proceeding

further.

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I949-I950 continued.

In May, I950, building was returned to the club by the school trustees.

In May, I950, Mrs. Robert Potter Hill and Mrs. L.S. Simmons were made honorary life members. In I907, Mrs. Hill served as President of the California Federation of Women's Clubs.She was a charter member of this club.

Following election of officers, a letter of resignation was received from Mrs. James Gottenberg for the office of President, as she had reconsidered, and her resignation accepted. Mrs. J. Lowell Oliver, as Vice-President elect, was installed as President, and she was authorized to appoint a Program Committee, as no Vice-President was installed at this time.

Active membership -

I950-I95I Mrs. J. Lowell Oliver, - President.

The 49th anniversary of the founding of the club was celebrated with a luncheon, held at Rosario's - Palms Inn, with 75 members and guests present, with Mrs. J. Lowell Oliver, presiding. No mention is made of the program for the day. However, the club took action against permitting legalized gambling in the State of California, by signing a resolution submitted by the California Federation of Women's Clubs.

The club entertained the County Federation of Women's Clubs, at its fall meeting, held in the club house.

Mrs. Carrie A. Burlingame was voted a charter member of the club, as she joined the club a few weeks after the club was organized, hence we regard her as a charter member.

Vintage Festival - Garden Section had its first booth in plaza to serve cake and coffee, and discontinued the sale of plants and flowers. $99.00 was realized. Garden Section voted to purchase a tea and coffee service for the club.

Club held a bazaar in the fall, and $357.00 was realized.

Club house was inspected for termites and their removal at a cost of $329.80.Interior of the club house was renovated, and the purchase of a screen, lamp, copper tub, picture (on stage), desk. Mrs. James McTaggart, as chairman, made a gift of a new American flag for the club room. The powder room was renovated. Mrs. Neal Dodge, as Chairman. The floor and hall was covered with asphalt tile at a cost of $I32.I8. Bids for repair of exterior of club house were recived for $985.00

A membership tea was held in November.

In January I95I, the membership voted to join the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The by-laws of the club were entirely revised, and accepted in April I95I. Committee - Mrs. A. K. McGrath, Mrs. Ralph Hotz, and Mrs. George Leiser. Most notable change being to have two vice-presidents instead of one, in order to give more assistance to the president , and to provide more line officers to draw from for executive material.Dues were raised to $7.50 per year for active members, and associate membership added with dues at $I5.00 per year.

Active membership - I78.

Written by Carrie Burlingame,
Charter Member

To celebrate the Clubs fiftieth Birthday in 1951, a grand dinner was put on at the Club House at noon. A chef put on the whole meal at $1.50 per plate. 128 were in attendance.

President Betty Weiss presided, and three charter members were present: Elsie Bean, Celest Murphy and Carrie Burlingame, the last named was declared a charter member that day for the reason that due to circumstances she had not been able to join at the inaugural meeting, but did join at the next meeting.

Our part of the days entertainment was a short skit written and produced by Carrie Burlingame. It reenacted the "Tea" at the home of Marie Clewe on the corner of 2nd St. E. & East Napa. Ten ladies were her guests that day, they were as follows: Mrs. Clewe was impersonated by Mrs. Oaks. Her sister Adelheit Renisch by Mrs.Ophia Larson, Martha Stearns by Carrie Burlingame, daughter of Hannah Appleton, Hannah Appleton by Elsie Bean, also her daughter. Kate Granice by her daughter Celest Murphy. Arvilla McDarney by Clara Johnson, her granddaughter. Thus four of the original founders were represented by their descendants. The following were protrayed as named: Louise Weber by Mrs. Marshall; Blanche Weems by Blanche Mills; Susie Enos by Esther Scott; Lucy Wallisre by Blanche Severance. All were dressed in authentic costumes of the period 1901. Many originals. The hats in particular were huge.

After considerable visiting and discussion, it was decided to try to start a Woman's Improvement Club, with particular emphasis on the Plaza, which was indeed an eyesore in those days.

Each lady promised to send out ten postal cards, asking friends to assemble at Union Hall, on Sept. for the purpose of organizing a Club.

Another part of the entertainment for the day was a meeting of the "Care" Committee, whose chairman was Peggy McAllese.

They told and talked over what they were doing for this important philanthropy, of such great importance following World War II.

On that date, Sept. 1901, 18 women met in Union Hall and the Club was organized.

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